GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1299
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
AUSTERITY IN EXPENDITURE
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.6705 on 9.5.2000 and state:

(a) the details of guidelines issued from time to time regarding fiscal prudence and austerity; and

(b) the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) & (b): The Prime Minister has addressed the members of the Union Council of Ministers on 15th October, 1998, 28th February, 2000 and 23rd September, 2000 emphasizing the need to follow scrupulously the guidelines in regard to fiscal prudence and austerity. The guidelines inter alia provide practicing austerity in official lives, official hospitality, and furnishing of residence/office at the residence. The guidelines also lay emphasis on following the entitlements prescribed for use of official cars, telephones, personal staff which can be attached to a Minister`s office; observance of austerity in undertaking foreign tours abroad and to avoid availing any kind of hospitality from public sector undertakings on any of the above accounts.

Union Ministers have responded favourably, expressing support to the Prime Minister`s views and promising to introduce the desired measures in their respective Ministries/Departments.